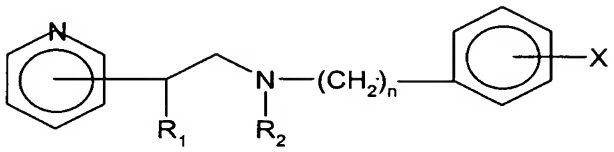
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Original) Compounds of formula I



I

wherein

n is an integer from 1 to 4

R_1 is a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl group or lower C_{1-6}alkoxy group

R_2 is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched lower C_{1-6}alkyl group

X is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxyl group, trifluoromethyl group, 3,4-di-Cl,2,4-di-Cl or lower C_{1-6} alkoxy group

and enantiomers, diastereoisomers or racemates thereof or the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

Claim 2. (Original) The compounds according to claim 1 in which n is an integer 2, R_1 is a hydroxyl group, R_2 a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl or isobutyl group and X is a hydrogen atom or phenyl disubstituted with 2 chlorine atoms in the positions 3 and 4 or in the positions 2 and 4.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The compounds according to claims ~~1 and 2~~ in which R_1 is a hydroxyl group in the RS configuration.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-phenylethyl)-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(4-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) The compounds of formula I according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~to 7~~ and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof as the ligands of sigma receptors for inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis in the treatment of hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipemia in humans.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compound of formula I according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~to 7~~ and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) Use of the compounds of formula I according to ~~any~~ claims 1 ~~to 7~~ and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof as the ligands of sigma receptors for inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis for the preparation of the pharmaceutical compositions for treating hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipemia.

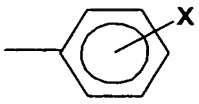
Claim 11. (Currently amended) The process for preparation of the compounds of formula I according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~to 7~~ which process comprises

a) alkylating secondary amines of formula VI

$$NHR_2CH_2CH_2Z \qquad \textbf{VI}$$

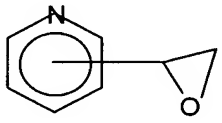
wherein

R_2 is as defined above in formula I and Z is a group



in which X is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



VII

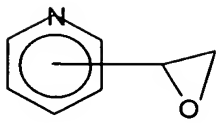
and, if desired, the obtained compounds of formula I are converted into the salt or

b) alkylating primary amines of formula VIII

$$R_2NH_2 \qquad \textbf{VIII}$$

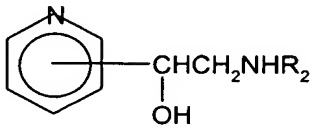
wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



VII

to intermediate compounds of formula IX



IX

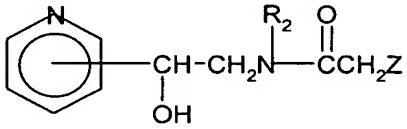
wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,

and condensing with the derivatives of phenylacetic acid of formula X

$$HOOCCH_2Z$$

wherein Z is as defined above,

to intermediate compounds of formula XI



XI

and reducing them to the title compounds of formula I, and, if desired, converting them into the salt.